ıpporters speak out in Fulton race

ıckers stump for ission chair candidates

note: Southern Voice offered the four for chair of the Fulton County n the opportunity to submit a statement supporter telling gay constituents why ıte deserve: their vote on Nov. 4. ohical information on supporters is provid- tification purposes and does not neces- / an endorsement.

's a proven leader

'HITELAW

:itizens of Fulton County do not : government that we deserve. on the Commission prevents ?, effi- vern- any of ıblems face — ıter, traf- ·lop- reen ealth- :. — are l prob- at will regional ıs. A co- ve atmos- ıuilt on respect, red. ıew chair ulton

Mitzi Bickers

Bob Whitelaw

ssion must der who ng us c, regard- race, geog- conomics, or sexual ion. Nov. 4, the of Fulton have the ınity to ıch a — Mitzi Bickers.

ı Bickers is a proven consensus helping the Atlanta School Board ne discord to become an effective : of the public.

:i Bickers is a trusted, proven The Atlanta School Board elected president — twice.

zi Bickers is a good steward ıe hard-earned dollars you pay :s.

:i Bickers is independent of other officials and special interests. She ve us, the citizens of Fulton

Mitzi Bickers is a former Atlanta employee. She has firsthand experience with adoption, DP registry/benefits, pensions, HIV/AIDS and other LGBT-specific issues. If being LGBT-friendly is good, then being LGBT is better.

On Tuesday, join me in voting for Mitzi Bickers, the candidate we can trust to bring all of us together.

Bob Whitelaw is president of the Georgia Stonewall Democrats.

Farris a strong advocate

By DIXON TAYLOR

I am proud to support the candidacy of Milton Carl Farris for chair of the Fulton County Commission.

I know him to be a fair, open-minded and compassionate man. He is the only candidate to issue a written pledge to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender voters of Fulton County. He promises, among other things, to support House Bill 885, which seeks to protect the rights of gays and lesbians in the work place.

Milton Farris

As a Fulton County commissioner in 1991, he voted along with then-Chair Michael Lomax in support of domestic partner benefits. He is one of the first public officials in Georgia to support DP benefits for government employees. At the urging of gay and health care activists, Milton and Michael Lomax led the effort to fund and establish the Grady Infectious Disease Clinic on Ponce de Leon Avenue.

Dixon Taylor

Milton has two openly gay family members and is familiar with the issues of concern to the gay, lesbian bisexual and transgender community. He is someone who the GLBT community can trust and rely upon. I know he will be a strong advocate for issues facing our community and the county at large. He is also fiscally conservative and is an advocate for the consolidation of city and county services to save our tax dollars.

He cares, he listens, and he will make an excellent chairman of the Fulton County Commission. I encourage you to vote for our friend, Milton Farris.

Dixon Taylor is a gay marketing professional.

Handel supports inclusion

By MIKE A. HORTON

As a Fulton County resident living and dealing daily with HIV and its subsequent issues, I was elated to see Karen Handel at the AIDS Walk Atlanta. This was just another event where I have seen Karen present and supporting the GLBT community of Fulton. It is such inclusion on her part that makes me proud to support her in the Fulton County Commission chair's race.

Karen Handel

Karen Handel means what she says when she pledges her support to us. She has long supported domestic partner benefits for us as well as employment non-discrimination.

Mike Horton

Most importantly, Karen Handel believes inclusion wins and has always included the entire GLBT community in her efforts, making appearances at Georgia Equality functions and having been a member of the Georgia Log Cabin Republicans for two years.

In sum, I call upon any HIV activists in Fulton to do what I gladly do now: endorse Karen Handel. Furthermore, I ask all Fulton GLBT residents to also do what is intrinsically right, and that is to join me on Nov. 4 in ushering in the correct candidate as the new Fulton County Commission chair. That candidate is Karen Handel.

Mike A. Horton is HIV relations/community outreach director for the Georgia Log Cabin Republicans.

VOTE Nov. 4

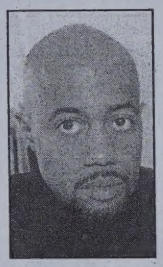
Webster responsive to gay needs

By CRAIG WASHINGTON

I have heard it said that the key to success is simply the act of showing up. On Nov. 4, let's demonstrate our political weight and wisdom by showing up to vote for Karen Elaine Webster for chair of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

Karen Webseter

We must ensure that Fulton County has leadership that's effective, responsible and responsive to our needs. Karen Webster has proven to be that kind of leader.



Craig Washington

More than any other candidate, she's demonstrated her resounding commitment to the gay and lesbian community. In 2001, she cast one of only two votes for domestic partner benefits for Fulton County employees. She chaired the highly influential Fulton County Arts for AIDS fund-raiser and has worked on behalf of gay adoptions.

As an HIV-positive black gay activist, I know how important it is to have a candidate who represents diverse constituencies. I have been moved by her vision, boundless energy and knowledge about the issues.

In this chilly climate of cutbacks and anti-gay backlash, we must choose a leader who has the willingness and capability to get the job done. We need an experienced bridge builder who can adequately represent all of Fulton County with integrity.

We need Karen Webster. And Karen needs you on Nov. 4 to make it happen.

Craig Washington is volunteer coordinator at Positive Impact and former executive director of the Atlanta Gay & Lesbian Center.